

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 OUAGAD 01621 130828Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 /076 W  
-----117899 132311Z /75

R 121218Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6745  
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN  
AMEMBASSY ACCRA  
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY LOME  
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L OUAGADOUGOU 1621

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, UV  
SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH UPV LEADERS

REF: OUAGADOUGOU 1432

1. PROFESSOR JOSEPH KI-ZERBO, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE  
UPV (UNION PROGRESSISTE VOLTAIQUE) AND UPV CANDIDATE FOR  
THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, AND ALI LANKAONDE, FORMER  
MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND UPV CANDIDATE FOR THE  
LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS, CALLED ON ME AT THEIR REQUEST  
AFTERNOON APRIL 11.

2. KI-ZERBO BEGAN CONVERSATION BY EXPLAINING THAT HIS  
FORMER PARTY, THE MLN, HAD ALWAYS GIVEN SUPPORT TO  
PRESIDENT LAMIZANA EVEN THOUGH IT HAD BEEN EXCLUDED LAST  
YEAR FROM THE NEW "SO-CALLED" GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL  
UNION. HE THOUGHT THE PRESIDENT HAD BEEN UNGRATEFUL  
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AND, AFTER THE UPV WAS FORMED, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN  
IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE NEW PARTY NOT TO HAVE A  
PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE. KI-ZERBO WENT ON TO EXPLAIN  
THAT THE UPV WAS LARGER BUT NOT AS HOMOGENEOUS AS THE  
FORMER MLN AND, IN CIRCUMSTANCES, HE HAD NO CHOICE BUT  
TO SUBMIT HIS CANDIDACY FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS.

3. LANKOANDE INTERRUPTED TO SAY THAT THE FIVE SMALL PARTIES SUPPORTING LAMIZANA'S CANDIDACY WERE NOT PARTIES AT ALL AND HAD NEVER HELD A NATIONAL CONVENTION OR CONGRESS. YET, THEY ALL SEEMED TO HAVE PLENTY OF FUNDS AND THE UPV ASSUMED THAT THESE FUNDS CAME FROM PRESIDENT LAMIZANA. HE DID NOT BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT THEY WOULD HAVE MUCH SUCCESS IN THE LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS. KI-ZERBO COMMENTED AT THIS POINT THAT THE THREE PARTIES WHICH WOULD EMERGE FROM THE ELCTIONS WITH THE LARGEST NUMBER OF SEATS WOULD BE THE UDV-RDA, THE UNDD, AND THE UPV.

4. COMMENT: BESIDES THE FACT THAT BOTH KI-ZERBO AND LANKOANDE ARE PERSONAL FRIENDS OF LONG STANDING, I AM PUZZLED BY THEIR CALL AT THE EMBASSY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN. THEY BOTH SEEMED RATHER GLOOMY, AND AT ONE POINT I HALF EXPECTED KI-ZERBO TO TELL ME THAT HE INTENDED TO WITHDRAW FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE. ALTHOUGH THEY DID NOT HAVE MUCH TO SAY, I DID THE LISTENING AND THEY DID THE TALKING. WE DO KNOW THAT THEY HAVE CALLED ON THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR RECENTLY, AND PERHAPS THEIR CALL ON ME WAS SIMPLY TO BALANCE THEIR DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS TO AVOID THE LEFTIST LABEL WHICH THEIR OPPONENTS ARE ANXIOUS TO PIN ON THEM. GRAHAM

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETINGS, PARTY LEADERS, ELECTION CANDIDATES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 12 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Subject:** CONVERSATION WITH UPV LEADERS  
**TAGS:** PINT, UV, UPV, (KI-ZERBO, JOSEPH), (LANKAONDE, ALI)  
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